



NTSB National Transportation Safety Board

Office of Aviation Safety

Canadair Challenger

November 28, 2004

Montrose, Colorado

Parties to the Investigation

- Federal Aviation Administration
- Air Castle Corporation
- General Electric

Accredited Representative

- Transportation Safety Board of Canada
 - Technical assistance was provided by Transport Canada and Bombardier



Background

- Airplane arrived from Van Nuys, California
- Airplane taxied to ramp and parked for about 40 to 45 minutes during wet snow flurries
- Witness observed snow on airplane's wings
- Lineman noted ice on airplane's nose landing gear and wheels

Ground Handling

- Deicing services were available and in progress
- Flight crew did not request deicing services for the airplane
- Flight crew did not conduct tactile examination of wing surfaces

Passenger Observations

- Slushy clumps of snow slid past window
- Airplane lifted off and climbed about 20 to 50 feet
- Left wing dropped abruptly, then right wing dropped, followed again by the left wing
- Airplane fell straight onto its nose





Cockpit Voice Recorder

- Airplane equipped with CVR but no FDR
- CVR tape captured about 32 minutes of events up to crash



Safety Issues

- Flight crew's failure to follow winter weather operating procedures
- Flight crew's failure to understand seriousness of winter weather hazards
- Crew resource management deficiencies



NTSB